

A RESOLUTION declaring February 2, 2011, as Kentucky Health Information Technology and Meaningful Use Awareness Day and urging Kentucky physicians, hospitals, health systems, and other eligible health care professionals, legislators, associations, and residents of the Commonwealth to support and use technology to improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of the health care system in Kentucky.

WHEREAS, the use of health information technology has the potential to improve health care quality, safety, and efficiency for patients and families in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the electronic exchange of health information among health care providers may improve health care quality, safety, and efficiency for patients by reducing errors and easing the administrative burdens of health care professionals; and

WHEREAS, in January 2011, Kentucky became the first state to issue an electronic health records meaningful use Medicaid incentive payment; and

WHEREAS, states and the federal government are expected to provide more than \$30 billion in incentive payments across the United States to eligible health care providers and professionals that meet requirements for meaningful use of health information technology; and

WHEREAS, federal incentive payments may provide as much as \$100 million for physicians and \$200 million for hospitals if the majority of eligible health care providers and professionals in Kentucky qualify for meaningful use incentive payments before the end of Stage 1 of the incentive program in 2012; and

WHEREAS, appropriate and secure use of electronic health records may more effectively protect a patient's health information than paper records through the use of privacy and security measures such as access controls, provider authentication, and electronic auditing;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of

Kentucky:

➔Section 1. The Senate hereby designates February 2, 2011, as Kentucky Health Information Technology and Meaningful Use Awareness Day.

➔Section 2. The Senate urges all eligible Kentucky physicians, hospitals, and health care professionals to use certified technology, meet the meaningful use requirements, apply for federal incentive payments, and use technology to improve the quality, efficiency, and safety of the health care system in Kentucky.

➔Section 3. The Senate supports the efforts of the Bluegrass Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS), Kentucky Health Information Management Association (KHIMA), the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME), the Governor's Office of Electronic Health Information, the Health Information Technology Regional Extension Centers, the Kentucky Hospital Association, the Kentucky Medical Association, and other organizations to assist and support health care professionals and providers in implementing electronic systems and achieving meaningful use of health information technology.

➔Section 4. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Mr. Jeffrey Rose, President of Bluegrass HIMSS, 1906 College Heights Boulevard, No. 8400, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101.